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Subpart A—General

§ 503.1 Statement of policy.

- (a) The Chairman of the Federal Maritime Commission is responsible for the effective administration of the provisions of Public Law 89-487, as amended. The Chairman shall carry out this responsibility through the program and the officials as hereinafter provided in this part.
- (b) In addition, the Chairman, pursuant to his responsibility, hereby directs that every effort be expended to facilitate the maximum expedited service to the public with respect to the obtaining of information and records. Accordingly, members of the public may requests for information, records, decisions or submittals in accordance with the provisions of §503.31.

Subpart B—Publication in the Federal Register

§ 503.11 Materials to be published.

- (a) The Commission shall separately state and concurrently publish the following materials in the FEDERAL REG-ISTER for the guidance of the public:
- (1) Descriptions of its central and field organization and the established places at which the officers from whom, and the methods whereby, the public may secure information, make submittals or requests, or obtain decisions.
- (2) Statements of the general course and method by which its functions are channeled and determined, including the nature and requirements of all formal and informal procedures available.
- (3) Rules of procedure, descriptions of forms available or the places at which

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forms may be obtained, and instructions as to the scope and contents of all papers, reports, or examinations.

- (4) Substantive rules of general applicability adopted as authorized by law, and statements of general policy or interpretations of general applicability formulated and adopted by the agency.
- (5) Every amendment, revision, or repeal of the foregoing.
- (b) The Commission's publication with respect to paragraph (a)(1) of this section has been and shall continue to be by publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER of the Rules and Regulations, Commission Order No. 1 (Amended), and amendments and supplements thereto.
- (c) The Commission's publications with respect to paragraphs (a)(2), (a)(3), and (a)(4) of this section, including amendments, revisions, and repeals, have been and shall continue to be by publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER as part of the Code of Federal Regulations, title 46, chapter IV.

§ 503.12 Effect of nonpublication.

Except to the extent that a person has actual and timely notice of the terms thereof, no person shall in any manner be required to resort to, or be adversely affected by any matter required to be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER and not so published.

§503.13 Incorporation by reference.

For purposes of this subpart, matter which is reasonably available to the class of persons affected hereby shall be deemed published in the FEDERAL REGISTER when incorporated by reference therein with the approval of the Director of the Office of the FEDERAL REGISTER.

[49 FR 44401, Nov. 6, 1984; 49 FR 47394, Dec. 4, 1984]

Subpart C—Commission Opinions and Orders

§ 503.21 Public records.

(a) The Commission shall, in accordance with this part, make the following

materials available for public inspection and copying:

- (1) Final opinions (including concurring and dissenting opinions) and all orders made in the adjudication of cases.
- (2) Those statements of policy and interpretations which have been adopted by the Commission.
- (3) Administrative staff manuals and instructions to staff that affect any member of the public.
- (b) To prevent unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, the Commission may delete identifying details when it makes available or publishes an opinion, statement of policy, interpretation, or staff manual or instruction, and shall, in each case, explain in writing the justification for the deletion.

§ 503.22 Current index.

The Commission shall maintain and make available for public inspection and copying a current index providing identifying information for the public as to any matter which is issued, adopted, or promulgated, and which is required by subpart B of this part to be made available or published. The index shall be available at the Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC 20573. Publication of such indices has been determined by the Commission to be unnecessary and impracticable. The indices shall, nonetheless, be provided to any member of the public at a cost not in excess of the direct cost of duplication of any such index upon request therefor made in accordance with subpart D of this part.

§ 503.23 Effect of noncompliance.

No final order, opinion, statement of policy, interpretation, or staff manual or instruction that affects any member of the public will be relied upon, used, or cited, as precedent by the Commission against any private party unless it has been indexed and either made available or published as provided by this subpart, or unless that private party shall have actual and timely notice of the terms thereof.